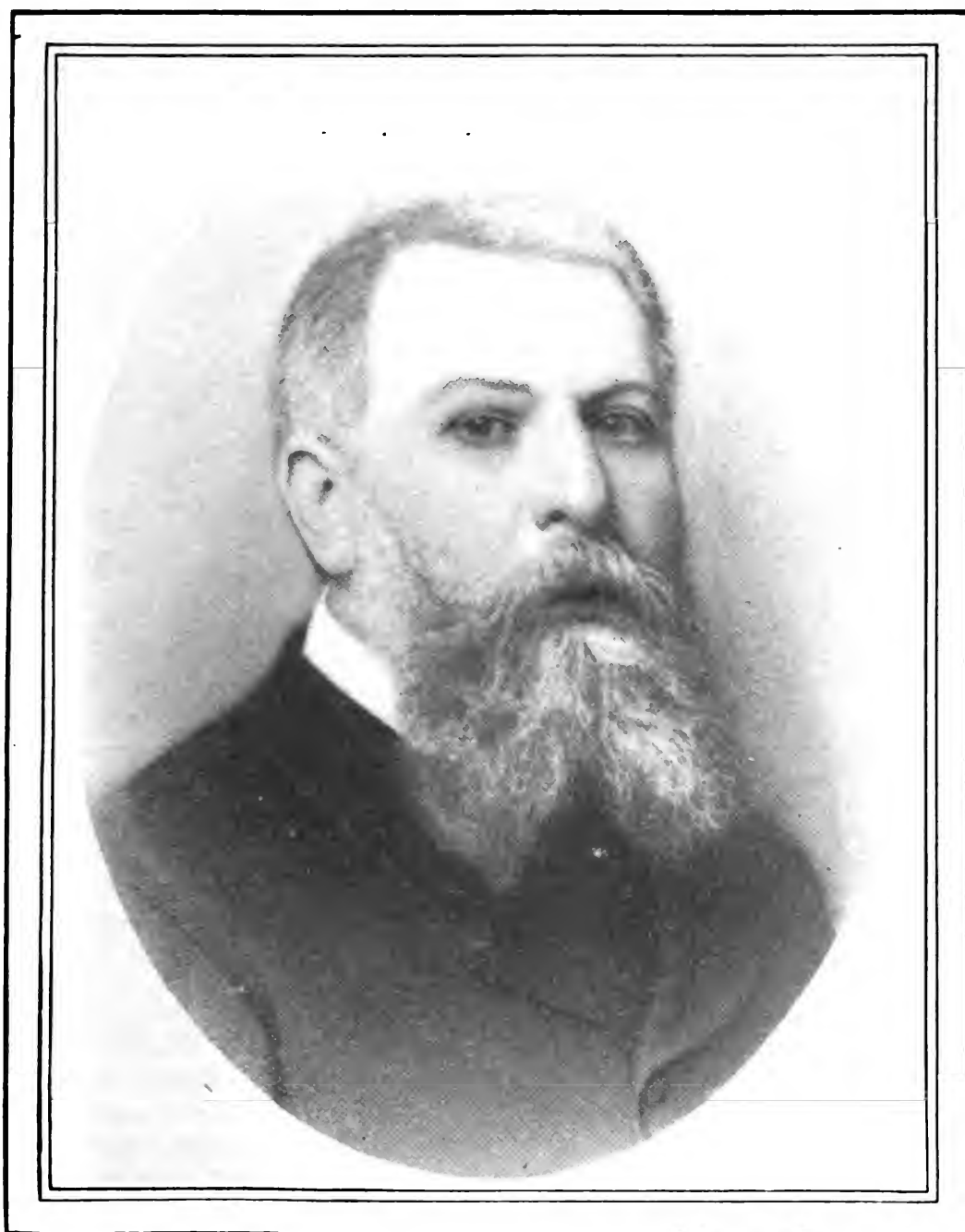


The Strong Men of Italy.

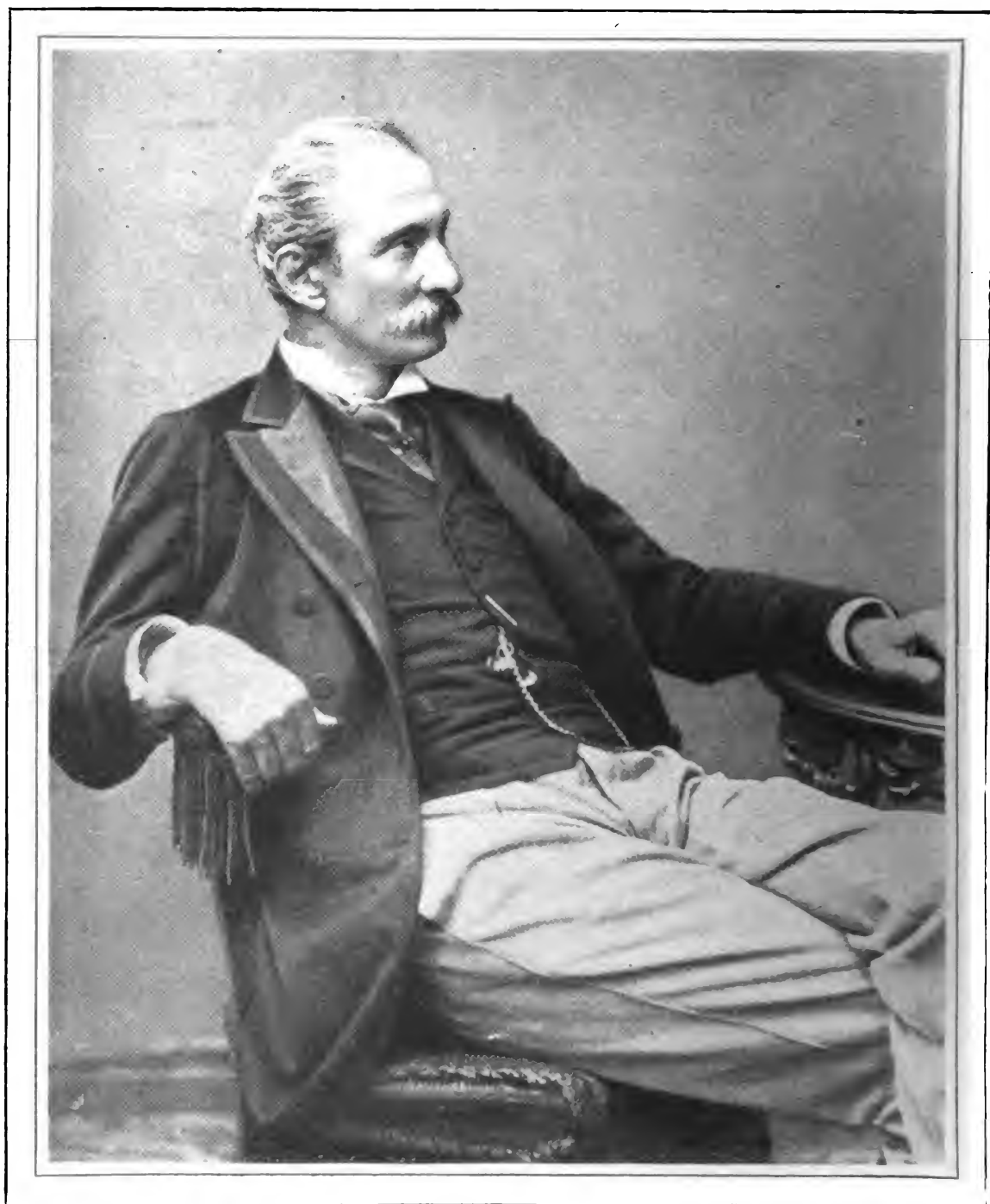
BY WILLIAM J. D. CROKE.

ITALY HAS SOUGHT HER STRONG MEN AMONG THE OLDEST OF THE NATION, AMONG THE COLLEAGUES OF CAVALIER, AMONG THOSE WHO BUILT UP A UNITED ITALY. THE MEN WHO LEAD IN ITALY ARE MEN OF INTERNATIONAL REPUTE.

ITALY, of all European countries, has put its trust most surely in that wisdom which comes as matter of right to old age. Its leaders are men well over the allotted span of life. A septuagenarian may claim youth in the Italian senate.



THE MARQUIS DI RUDINI—A CONSERVATIVE AND A MAN OF ACTION.



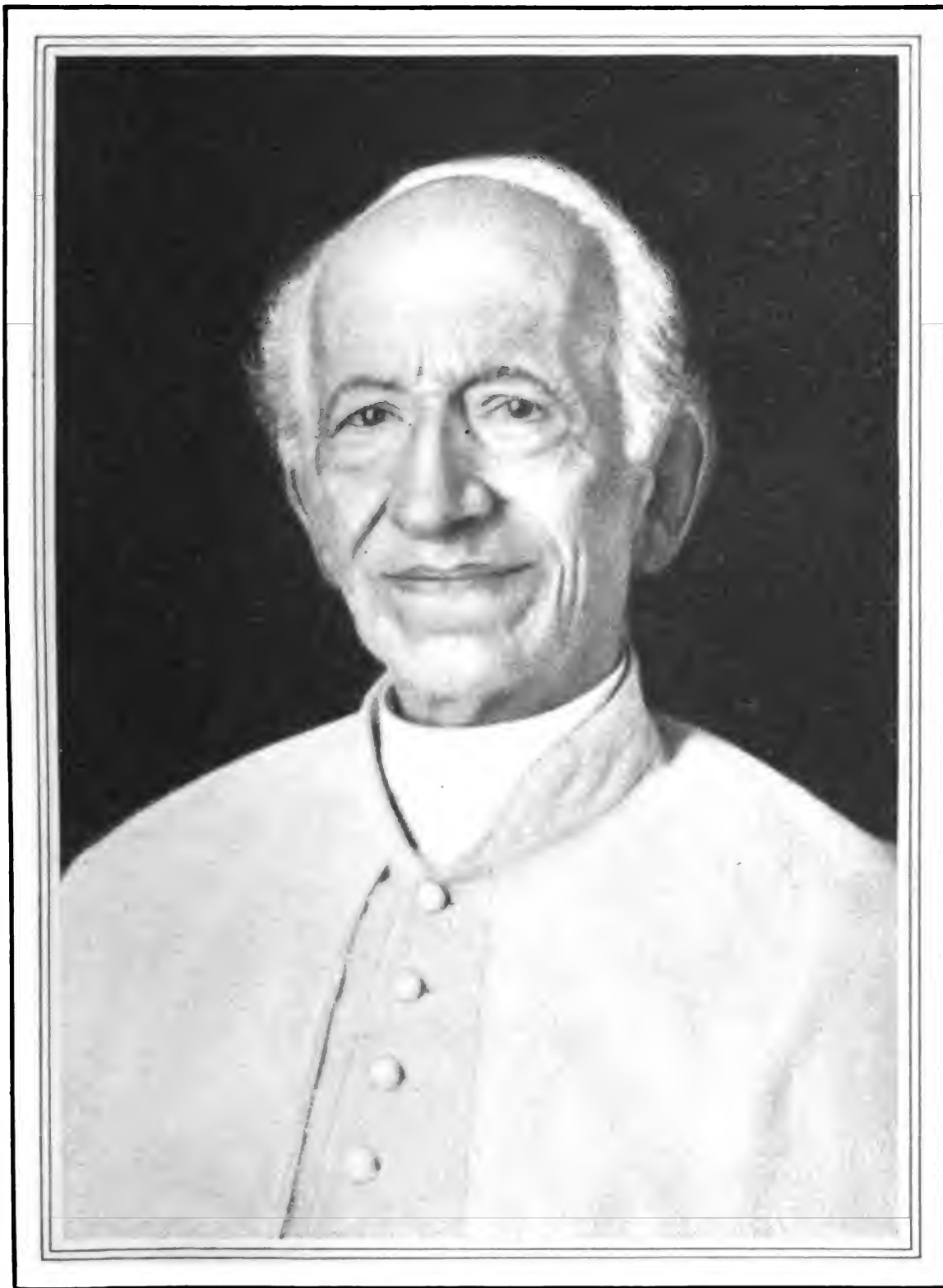
GIUSEPPE ZANARULLI, PRIME MINISTER OF ITALY, THE FRAMER OF THE PENAL CODE.

This has not always been so, but experience has taught that men of middle age, men who were reared in the uneasy lap of revolution, were uncertain guides of a settled government. Italy has placed her trust in her oldest and her youngest generations.

And so it happens that the opening year of the twentieth century saw three of the four most remarkable of Italians drift outward over the bar into the Unknowable. All were old men, and their places must be filled by men forty years their junior.

Some few years ago, while the men of middle life still held the control of national affairs, the Marquis Visconti Venosta had been dragged out of the seclusion of the senate into the foreign office. A Milanese by birth, Emilio Visconti Venosta in his youth, like many of those destined to political eminence, had been a conspirator and a man of letters. The Mazzinian sobered into the associate of Cavour, into a royal commissary with Garibaldi, an adjutant under Farini in the duchies of Parma and Modena, an attaché on an extraordinary

- mission to Paris and London, a minister from the presidency of the Upper House
- for foreign affairs, an ambassador at to the presidency of the cabinet some
- Constantinople, and into premier of few months before the tragedy of
- Italy in 1869. Seventy two years of age, Monza.



POPE LEO XIII, BORN ON MARCH 2, 1810.

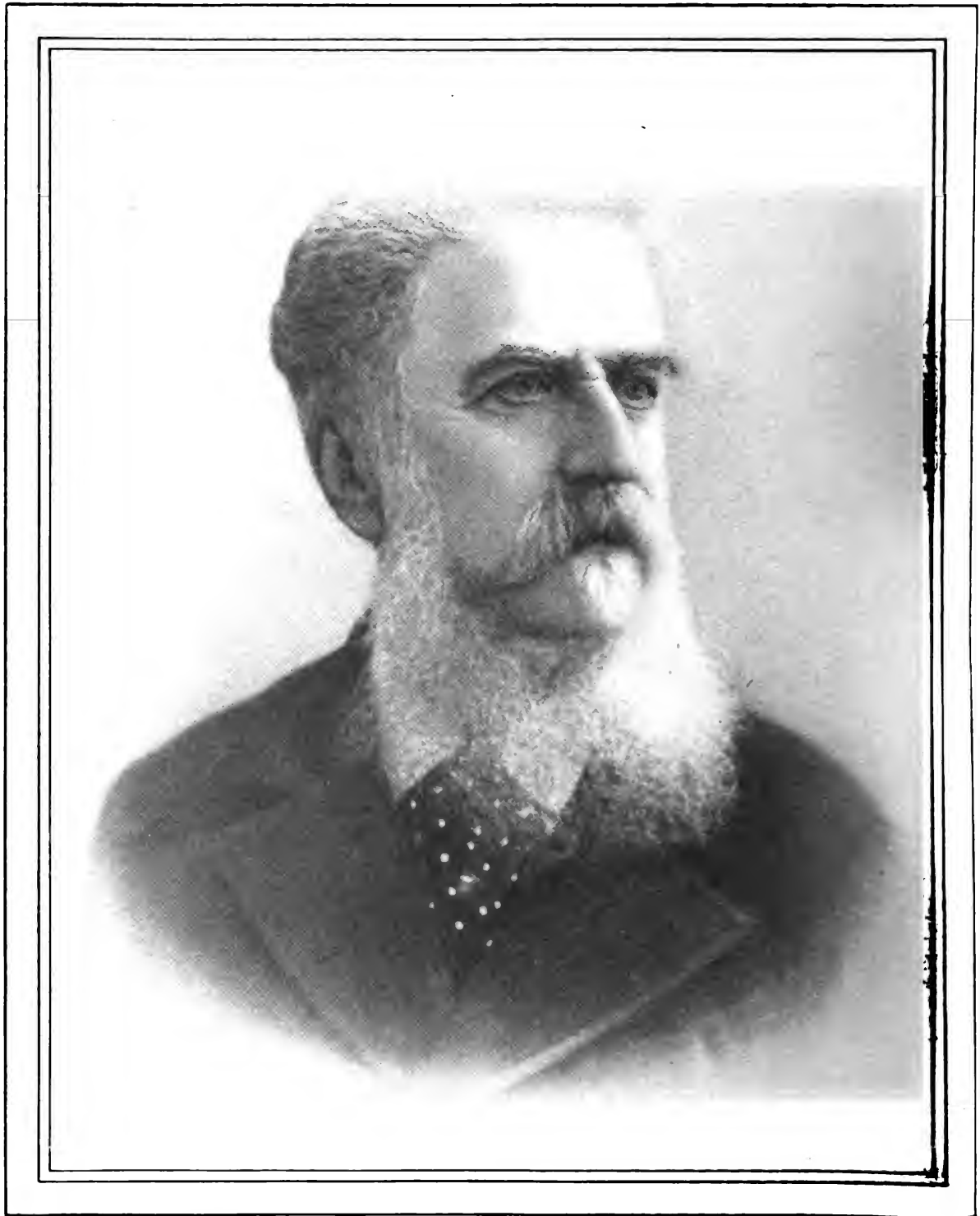
the marquis is still upright of figure, blond, fresh in appearance, tasteful in dress, a strange contrast to the Senator Saracco whom King Humbert called

Senator Saracco is a magnificent example of a ripe old age. Endowed with the most astonishing activity, with an open and expanding mind, with a buoy-

ancy and resiliency of temperament, with tact, subtlety, and experience, he is the equal of his juniors in years. Yet is his figure almost as bent as that of Leo XIII, and only the aged can re-

an ambitious diplomatist, with the dignity which is the right of great age, Senator Saracco is one of the most remarkable men of his day in Italy.

Such preservation has resulted from



MARQUIS EMILIO VISCONTI VENOSTA—ONE OF THE SEPTUAGENARIANS.

member to have seen it otherwise. But the eighty odd years that have curved it have failed to rob Saracco of his agility. Thin, spare, delicate looking, with a smile which seems a part of his features, with the attractive personality of

long years of a careful life, an economy of all things, which has become parsimony in the care of the public purse. Mayor of his city of Acqui for forty years, he has managed the affairs of the township with a care which is almost miserly. All



GUIDO BACELLI, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
SCIENTIST AND WRITER.



ENRICO FERRI, RADICAL AND REFORMER, LEADER
OF THE EXTREME LEFT.

of the cities of Italy raised monuments to the memory of Victor Emmanuel. To

Senator Saracco, as mayor, it was pointed out how curious a thing it was that a



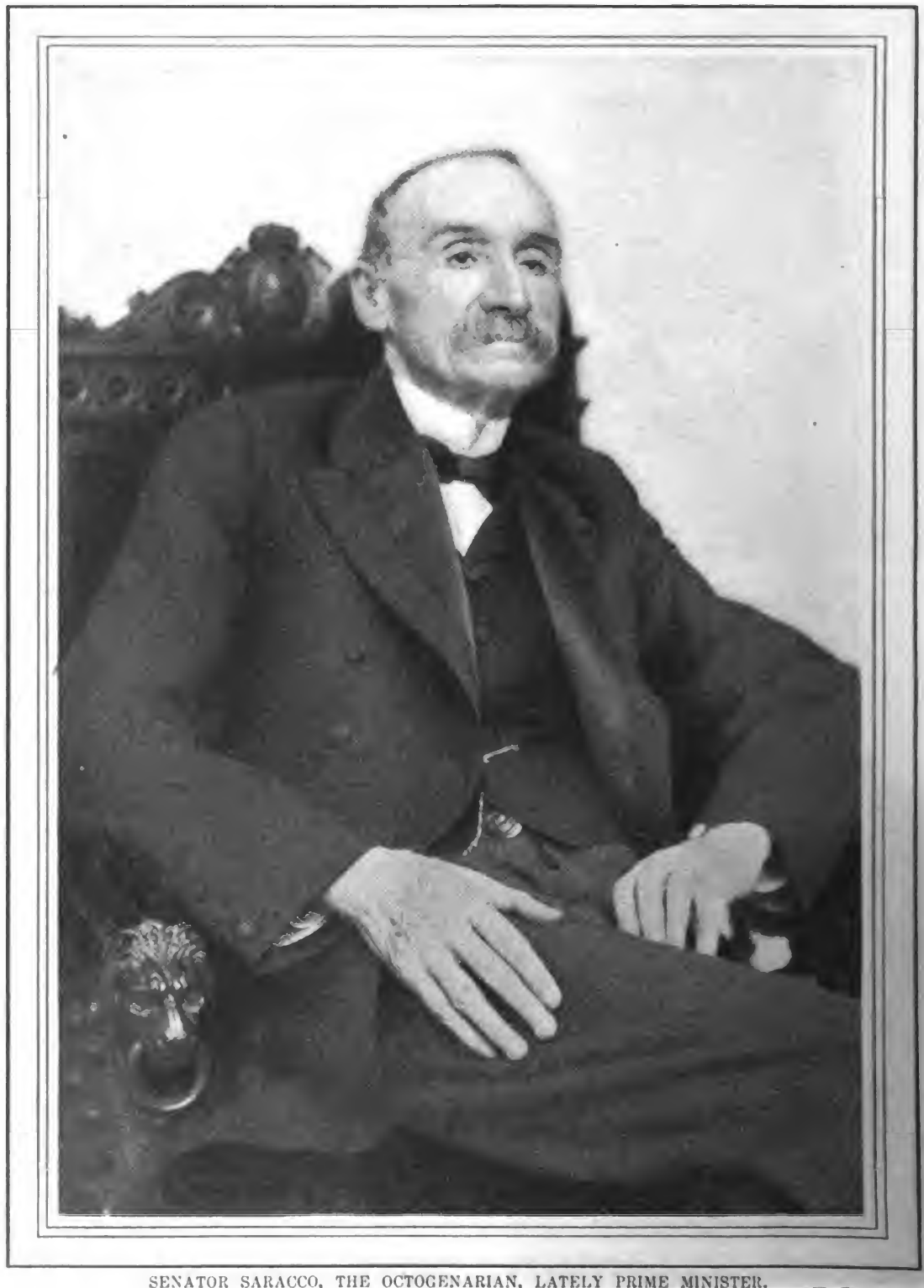
RUGGIERO LEONCAVALLO, COMPOSER.



ERMETTE NOVELLI, ACTOR.

town in strong, all conquering Piedmont should be without its patriotic monument. The mayor, with his usual smile, assented to the erection of one, and the

trifle, and in the night time, when Acqui was asleep, had it placed in position in the principal square. There was no drain on the city's purse, no pomp, but



SENATOR SARACCO, THE OCTOGENARIAN, LATELY PRIME MINISTER.

people prepared themselves for considerable expenditure of public money and for pomp in celebrating the occasion.

Mayor Saracco, however, had heard of a suitable statue which had failed to find a purchaser. He bought it for a

Acqui possessed its monument. And so, throughout his premiership, Saracco has ever watched the interests of his township.

Prime Minister Zanardelli, who succeeded Saracco at the beginning of last

year, found, in the burdensome position of royal commissary over the municipality of Naples, Senator Saredo. Saredo was born in 1832. Like so many poor men who have reached eminence in Italian public life, Giuseppe Saredo began his career as a journalist. From that he became school teacher in 1859. The following year saw him a professor in the University of Sassari, whence he passed, eventually, to the chair of law in Rome.

In 1863 his great work, "The Principles of Constitutional Law," appeared. Since then he has stood out as the interpreter of constitutional law in Italy.



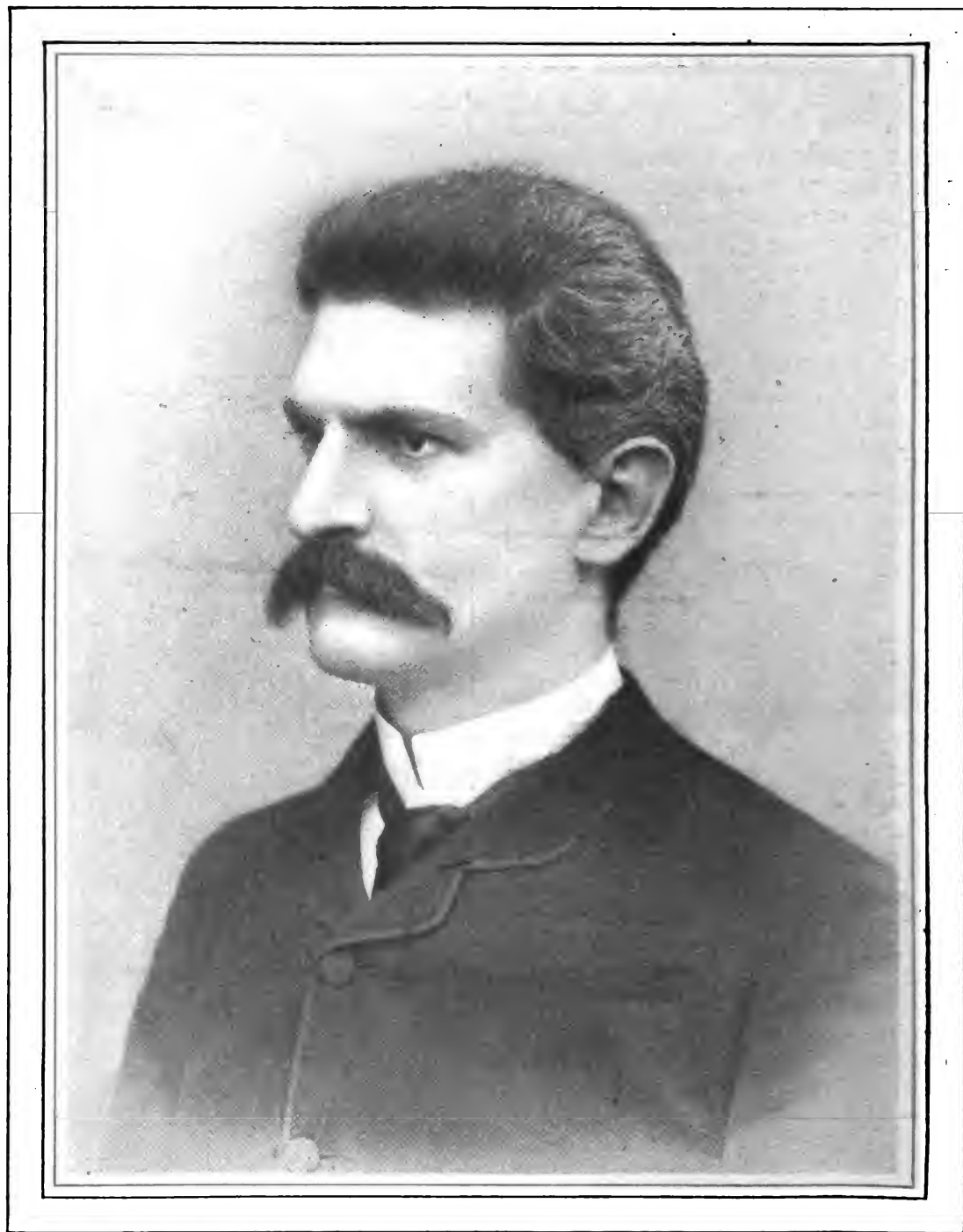
GABRIELE D'ANNUNZIO, NOVELIST AND POET.



PIETRO MASCAGNI, COMPOSER.

His position has gained for him many enemies, but throughout he has stood fast by his principles and has not once faltered in his attitude. His opponents have referred to him in contempt as the son of a dock porter. To that he made reply: "This, which would not be dishonorable in itself, is untrue. My father was a poor but respected signalman, and from him I gained a precious heritage of probity and sound limbs." In that retort was gathered up all of the disdain which the older generation feels for the moral and material weakness of the men of middle age in Italy.

While these septuagenarians and oc-



BARON SIDNEY SONNINO, THE FRAMER OF ITALIAN CABINETS.

togenarians have renewed within constitutional bounds the vigor of Crispi, the Church has entrusted its headship to a nonagenarian. The state has been forced to draw upon its reserve of old men, the colleagues of Cavour. The Church, on the other hand, has surrounded its aged pontiff with the men it set about training in those days of its most serious stress. In the Church one finds an entirely new generation of cardinals, bishops, and clergy, assisted and strengthened by militant laymen.

Nothing can be more inspiring than the supreme example of plain living and high thinking presented by Pope Leo XIII. Verdi was born in 1814, Crispi in 1819, Morelli in 1826, Leo XIII on March 2, 1810. He has outlived all these, the most celebrated of his countrymen, and has also survived all those with whose names his has been associated in Italy and abroad—Gounod, Ruskin, Bismarck, Gladstone, Queen Victoria, and Prince Li Hung Chang, all have preceded him to the grave.

It was James Russell Lowell who said, "Surely an intellect that is still pliable at seventy is a phenomenon as interesting as it is rare." Since then a generation has come and gone. At that time Gioacchino Pecci, of whom it was written, was entering upon the most fruitful period of his career. He was then on the verge of seventy. He had been called, on the death of Cardinal Antonelli, to Rome, to take up the moral succession to that great secretary of state. On the death of Pope Pius IX, a little later, he began to give effect to those profound theological, political, and social meditations which he had matured in his tranquil bishophood of Umbrian Perugia.

THE NONAGENARIAN POPE.

Today he is directing, with his marvelous personal foresight and supervision, the principal workings of the government of his church throughout the world. He keeps himself informed of all the great topics and movements of the day, and takes the lion's share in the immediate treatment of every ecclesiastical question of sovereign importance. At this hour he is busy unraveling the tangle of Philippine religions with all of his old energy and capacity. Only those who have heard him speak without preparation can realize the grand cadences of his oratory and the sonorous melody of his Tuscan or Ciceronian Latin. Even the readers of newspapers know that, at ninety two, he is a poet pontiff, after having rendered his first homage to the muse eighty years ago. Nowhere in the world is there so irrefragable a proof of the continued flexibility of a lofty mind.

THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES.

In the wonders of Italian senescence one must not neglect such strength as there is in the middle generation. The leading thinkers and actors in politics, religion, finance, science, literature, and the arts make a formidable list. In politics one must group the chamber of deputies into sections formed around men of uncommon intelligence or of remarkable experience and power. Of such are Zanardelli, Sonnino, Di Rudini, Giolitti, Luzzatti, Baccelli, and Ferri.

The last is such a leader as the un-

ruly and acephalous Extreme Left, composed of radicals, republicans, and socialists, may boast. A parliamentary debater of unusual skill—tall for an Italian, slim figured, pale, curly haired, frantic at moments and always intense, with a voice rising to a scream in excitement, with a woman's soul in a man's body, unresting, versatile, witty—Enrico Ferri is the most remarkable composite of modern Italy. A professor in the Royal University at Rome, he is a scientific authority whose triumph in the Congress of Criminal Anthropology at Amsterdam in September last gained him enthusiastic praise from the most stanch of monarchical organs.

Born in 1856, he is young among the parliamentarians. In 1880 he was teaching law in the University of Turin. From the outset, his legal studies tended towards criminal law. In 1885, with Lombroso, he organized the first International Congress of Criminology. In 1886 he entered parliament as deputy. Since then he has been the most active of Italy's public men, teaching in the university, orating in the chamber of deputies, writing books, lecturing on scientific subjects all over Europe, and urging his socialist crusade wherever he could gather an audience. Ferri is a strange product of the Italy of today.

GUIDO BACCELLI.

Guido Baccelli was born in the Eternal City in 1832, and is, therefore, at seventy, remarkable as an active scientist. His latest scientific discovery he explained last autumn in a typically frequent address to the medical congress at Pisa. Shortly before, in the Virchow celebrations at Berlin, he signaled himself as a Latinist. An enthusiastic archeologist and a ripe classical scholar, he has used his power as minister for public instruction to advance education in Italy. Most recently his revelation of a remedy for foot and mouth disease has shown how versatile is Italian intellect.

Rising earlier than the sun, Baccelli has read all the latest publications in every branch of medical investigation before the working day has opened. As minister for agriculture he has introduced a program of radical reform.

Known in public life as the *diro*, Guido Baccelli is still youthful and boylike, with an effervescence of animal spirits and an irresistible geniality of intellectual temperament.

LUZZATTI AND SONNINO.

Luigi Luzzatti, classed in the public mind with Baccelli, is one of the younger generation of politicians. He was born in 1842. He is a many sided economist, a financial theorist, the author of much and the organizer of more, both in the social and monetary provinces. The apostle of coöperative effort, the successor of Gladstone in the French Institute, he has ventured in lectures and books into questions historical as a relief from the more serious studies that have made him world famous.

A framer of cabinets who has never yet held office as prime minister is Baron Sonnino. Since the fall of Crispi, he has held the premiership in his gift. Born in 1849, Sidney Sonnino is in the prime of a successful political career. By his unalluring gravity, he is the reverse of Ferri, his rival in the Chamber. Like Luzzatti, Sonnino is of Hebrew stock, and thus the more naturally recognized as an authority on finance. His reputation is established by much writing and by long cabinet experience. With Baron Franchetti, he, in 1877, founded a weekly review which, though it lasted but four years, left a permanent impression on Italian thought. Nothing in Italian literature compels more profound attention than his annual review of political work—a monument of care.

GIUSEPPE ZANARDELLI.

Giuseppe Zanardelli is a luminary in the law, a practitioner of national distinction, the framer of the penal and commercial codes, one of the finest intelligences in politics, a man consistent in principle. Prime minister of Italy, Zanardelli is the young king's experiment in government through the liberal party. Younger than Saracco—being only seventy five years of age—his is a figure somewhat of the same cast, though more sinewy. His face is lit up with the expression of a very strong and remarkably sharp intelligence, while his attenuated frame lends itself with nat-

uralness to the rapid gestures of his fluent and classical orations.

There is none of this Lombard fascination about Giovanni Giolitti, a Piedmontese, born at Mondovi in 1842. He is a product of the bureaucratic machine—the working chief of a department who became head of the state. An astute politician, lacking a sufficient following in parliament, his premiership has been marked by a lack of consistency of purpose. As minister for the interior under Zanardelli, Giolitti is proving a greater success than ever he did as premier.

THE OLD TIME CONSERVATIVE.

Like Giolitti in his poverty of following, is Antonio Starabba, Marquis di Rudini. Conservatives see in him an ideal administrator. Women find him the most handsome of statesmen. The antithesis of Enrico Ferri in political belief, he is his rival, despite his sixty years, in looks and fascination. Yet with all the softness of tone in his aristocratic appearance, the marquis is a man of blood and iron on occasion. It was as mayor of Palermo—the city of his Norman ancestry—at the outset of his public life, he dared to defy the mob and to fire upon it with effect from the balcony of his palace. As was natural in a country emerging out of revolution, a man of so fiery a will rose rapidly. Within a few years he became prime minister. As premier in 1898 the Marquis di Rudini stamped out the abortive revolution of that year. By his strength the government was saved.

Such are the leaders and rulers of Italy—the men who, in the highest degree, unite culture with public activity.

In literature, in music, in science, Italy possesses names that are world famed. Gabriele d'Annunzio is embarking on a new tide of popularity in poetry and the drama. In the last two years he has become a politician and a patriot. Famous at fifteen, he finds himself at thirty eight the apostle of a new gospel. His recent dramatizations mark his emancipation from the esoteric guild he had formed. Of the musicians, Leoncavallo, Mascagni, Puccini maintain the fame of Italy. Novelli leads the forces of the actors.